

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An auto-routing electronic mail (e-mail) system, comprising:
 - a computer network;
 - a server communicating over said computer network and including an undelivered data storage; and
 - a sender computer communicating over said computer network;
 - wherein said electronic mail system ~~compares~~examines a received e-mail message to previous e-mail messages sent from said sender computer and if a match occurs said e-mail system determines that said received e-mail message is a bounced e-mail message to determine whether a previous e-mail message was not received by an intended recipient of the previous e-mail message, and wherein said e-mail system posts at least a portion of said bounced previous e-mail message to said undelivered data storage in said server and sends a notification e-mail message to an intended recipient of said bounced e-mail message, notifying said intended recipient of the existence of said bounced e-mail message and notifying the intended recipient of the existence of the previous e-mail message, wherein the notification e-mail message includes instructions instructing said intended recipient as to how to retrieve said least a portion of said previous bounced e-mail message.
 - 2. (Original) The system of claim 1, wherein said computer network further comprises a plurality of inter-connected computer networks.
 - 3. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein said notification e-mail includes a server retrieval address comprising a hypertext markup language (HTML) address

link identifying the location of said least a portion of said previous bounced e-mail message in said undelivered data storage.

4. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, wherein said notification e-mail includes a server retrieval address comprising a uniform resource locator (URL) address identifying the location of said least a portion of said previous bounced e-mail message in said undelivered data storage.

5. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, said sender computer further comprising:

a sent message storage storing previously sent e-mail messages;
a received message storage storing received e-mail messages;
a server retrieval address storage storing a server retrieval address of at least a portion of a bounced sent e-mail message posted to said server; and
a comparison rule that governs how a bounce is detected;
wherein said sender computer compares a received message to said previously sent e-mail messages according to said comparison rule, determines whether said received previously sent message was bounced, posts said at least a portion of said bounced previously sent e-mail message to said server, and sends said notification e-mail message to said intended recipient.

6. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 5, wherein said sender computer receives a server retrieval address from said server after said at least a portion of said bounced previously sent e-mail message is posted to said server, with said server retrieval address being included in said notification e-mail message.

7. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 1, said server further comprising:
a sent message storage storing previously sent e-mail messages;
a received message storage storing received e-mail messages; and
a comparison rule that governs how a bounce is detected;

wherein said server compares a received message to said previously sent messages according to said comparison rule, determines whether said received message one of said previously sent messages was bounced, and sends said notification e-mail message to said intended recipient.

8. (Original) The system of claim 7, wherein said server transmits a server retrieval address to said intended recipient after a message bounce is detected, with said server retrieval address being included in said notification e-mail message.

9. (Currently Amended) An auto-routing method for an electronic mail (e-mail) system, comprising the steps of:

sending a first e-mail message to an intended recipient, wherein the first e-mail message includes one or more attachments;

receiving a second e-mail message after sending the first e-mail message;
determining if a received the size of the first e-mail message is a bounced e-mail message exceeds a size limit, wherein the determination is based, at least in part, on information included in the second e-mail message;

posting at least a portion of said bounced first e-mail message to a server accessible to an intended recipient of said bounced e-mail message in response to a determination that the size of the first e-mail message exceeds a size limit; and

notifying said intended recipient of an availability of said at least a portion of said bounced first e-mail message on said server;

wherein said intended recipient accesses said server in order to obtain said at least a portion of said bounced first e-mail message.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein said server performs the determining and notifying steps.

11. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9, further comprising the preliminary steps of:

~~said sender computer transmitting a generated e-mail message to said data server;~~
~~and~~
~~said data server relaying said generated e-mail message to said intended recipient;~~
~~wherein said server performs the determining and notifying steps wherein said at least~~
~~a portion of said first e-mail message consists of said one or more attachments.~~

12. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein a sender computer performs the determining and notifying steps.

13. (Original) The method of claim 9, the notifying step further comprising sending a notification e-mail message to said intended recipient.

14. (Original) The method of claim 9, the notifying step further comprising embedding an HTML address link in a notification e-mail message.

15. (Original) The method of claim 9, the notifying step further comprising embedding a URL address in a notification e-mail message.

16. (Original) The method of claim 9, the determining step further comprising the steps of:

embedding a unique identifier in each outgoing e-mail message;
comparing a previously sent message unique identifier to a received message unique identifier; and
determining that said previously sent message was bounced if a match is found.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9, the determining step further comprising the steps of:

comparing at least a portion of said previously sent first e-mail message to a corresponding portion of a received said second e-mail message; and

determining that said previously first sent message was bounced if a match is found said portions match.

18. Cancelled.

19. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 9, the determining step further comprising the steps of:

comparing one or more predetermined data fields in said previously sent first e-mail message to one or more ~~corresponding~~ data fields in ~~a received said second~~ e-mail message; and

determining that said previously sent message was bounced if a match is found.

20. (New) An auto-routing system for an electronic mail (e-mail) system, comprising:

computer code means for enabling a sender to transmit a first e-mail message to a recipient's e-mail account, wherein a file is attached to the first e-mail message;

computer code means for storing the file in a data storage coupled to a server;

computer code means for receiving a message from an e-mail server associated with the recipient's e-mail account;

computer code means for determining whether the message indicates that the size of the first e-mail message exceeds a size limit;

computer code means for automatically transmitting a second e-mail message to the recipient's e-mail account in response to determining that the first e-mail message exceeds the size limit, wherein the second e-mail message includes an identifier identifying the file and the server coupled to the data storage.

21. (New) The system of claim 20, wherein the second e-mail message includes a hyperlink to the file.